

**ORCHARD PARK BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 12, 2025 WORK SESSION**

The work session of the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Orchard Park Fire District was held on August 12, 2025 at 5:00 PM in the board room of the District Offices, 4222 S. Taylor Road.

**Those Present:**

Commissioner:	William Hanrahan	Dist. Chief:	Jay Knavel
Commissioner:	Robert Benning	Treasurer:	Nick Enser
Commissioner:	Edmund Jensen Jr.	Secretary:	Roberta Buczkowski
Commissioner:	Frank Wierzbowski	Attorney:	Mike Chelus
		Administrator:	Monica Thielemann
		Maintenance Manager:	Justin Johnson
		EMS:	Eric Knavel

Attorney Chelus explained the procedure for the dissolution of EMS. The Board and EMS to sign the dissolution paperwork. Copies to each Board member and the original to be filed.

**Memberships/Personnel**

**Jay:** there are four (4) new members for Hillcrest.

**Equipment**

**Jay:** The hose washers are here, and training is on-going.  
Waiting on chiefs for small equipment lists.

**Justin:** Should look into replacing or getting rid of ambulance 840 as it is sixteen (16) years old and needs much work. There are transmission problems with ambulances 881, 883 and 882  
Discussion followed.

**Fire EMS Incidents**

**Jay:** Went over the two (2) fires and the cost of calls etc.

**Dispatch**

**Bill:** Went over to Hamburg to see their Dispatch operations. Talked with Town Councilman, John Mariano regarding the Orchard Park Dispatch. Very willing to come talk with the Board regarding budget and dispatch.

**Facilities**

**Jay:** Per Hillcrest, the original contractor for the grove shelter has come forward and will be reimbursing the money.

**Bill:** Regarding Windom's parking lot, talked with Facilities Manager, Chris Peri and Commissioner Jensen about the cracks in the concrete.

**Ed:** The light in the cooler is still not working. Would like to purchase the light for \$283.00 to have on hand for when the sub-contractor can come replace. Fine with the Board.

**Bill:** The key problem at Windom has been repaired.

**Ed:** The Orchard Park Fire Company will cover the cost of the fobs for the Day Room.

Discussion followed.

Discussion on administrative members (Social) followed.

**Frank:** There is a leak in the compression system in the Windom Plymovent system.

**Bill:** On-going problems with the hood vent in the kitchen at Windom. Facilities manager is working on the problem.

**Ed:** There are a few things still not done with regards to the landscaping at the facilities. Commissioner Benning to look into problems.

## **IT**

**Jay:** Still in the trial phase of Tango-Tango, still struggling with the 2-way radios. Pagers are still usable, and some firefighters still want pagers.

Discussion followed.

RedAlert is changing as of the first of 2026.

Jay explained the changes and a discussion followed.

**Mike:** There is a new law that states every municipality needs a website with the .gov. Administrator Monica Thielmann and IT, Greg Bienias are working together on this.

## **Policies**

**Bill:** The Incident and Operations Policy is completed.

## **Treasurer**

Treasurer Enser explained the Statutory Limit on taxpayers with regard to the tax cap.

Went over the preliminary budget and the monetary information with the inclusion of EMS into the District.

Discussion followed.

## **Administration**

No report

There being no further business the Work Session ended at 6:55PM

Respectfully submitted

Roberta Buczkowski, Secretary